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STUDENT REACTION TO CIA RECRUITMENT ACTIVITIES ON CAMPUS

A Summary of Incidents, 1966 - 1968

1966 saw the first significant student opposition to the Agency's campus recruitment program. The <u>Ramparts Magazine</u> "exposé" generated much publicity and controversy, and picketing incidents at Grinnell College (Iowa), College of the City of New York, San Jose State College, and Harvard gave rise to a flood of news articles. On the more constructive side, the <u>New York Times</u> series of articles on the Agency's world-wide activities did much good and no perceptible harm. On the whole, the publicity and free advertising did more good than harm for the recruitment effort - inspiring a great many write-in candidates of whom we might never have heard otherwise - and emphasized the fact that the press and the reading public will take a special interest in what the Agency does. Student action in the picketing incidents was relatively non-violent and non-disruptive, but added up to a change of climate in the academic community [redacted]

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1967 became a different story. It will be remembered as a year in which our recruitment effort was challenged by on-campus picketing and anti-Agency demonstrations, and a considerable amount of adverse publicity. FY 1966 saw four incidents, two minor and two worthy of note. FY 1967 brought twenty-seven (27), ranging from a "silent protest" at Hunter College to a physical incarceration of two recruiters at Columbia University. [redacted]

In 1968 the student protesters hit their stride and we experienced a total of seventy-seven (77) campus incidents. [redacted] As in FY 1967, members of the Students for a Democratic Society (SDS) were again the primary instigators. Though still a small minority of students, they appeared to be better organized and more aggressive than before. It became clear, however, that there was wide spread unrest among students throughout the country, exacerbated by concern over the Vietnam conflict, Selective Service, racial tensions, etc. [redacted] In November 1967 our field recruiters were furnished a statement of policy with respect to demonstrations as follows:

"1. This memorandum is an extension of the previously stated policy governing our recruiting on college and university campuses.

"2. The Agency will continue interviewing on campuses for recruitment purposes to the extent that it can be conducted: